



# COUNTY OF SONOMA

## PERMIT AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

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November 10, 2009

Commissioner Arthur H. Rosenfeld Ph.D.  
Commissioner Julia Levin, J.D.  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, Ca. 95814-5512

**Re: Sonoma County Green Building Ordinance and  
the Building Energy Efficiency Standards**

Dear Commissioners Rosenfeld and Levin,

Per the request of Commission Staff, we would like to express to you our firm commitment to have the County enforce the current Title 24 Building Energy Efficiency Standards as part of the implementation of our local energy ordinance. As the Chief Building Official, I will work with my staff involved in energy plan review and field inspection to improve their working knowledge of the energy standards. This includes special training as needed which focuses on enforcement of the energy standards and the special requirements of the County of Sonoma energy ordinance.

On July 21, 2009, I presented to the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors, the Energy Efficiency Ordinance, Green Building Ordinance and the Energy Cost Effective Study. The Board recognized the study analysis showing energy saving, and cost effectiveness, and opened the public hearing at their July 21, 2009 regular calendar business meeting. I have attached a copy of the minutes of that meeting for your information. The Ordinances and Study were unanimously approved by the Board.

Additionally, per the request of Commission Staff, language was amended in the Green Building Ordinance to reflect Commission Staff comments for the Ordinance to require the demonstration of compliance with the California Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Title 24, part 6) of the California Building Code. This language change also reflects Sonoma County's commitment to enforce these standards as the minimum required by code, regardless of the green point rated system used, or the green point threshold required. I presented this amendment to the ordinance before the Board of Supervisors on October 20, 2009, and the public hearing was re-opened. The Ordinance was unanimously approved without change. I hope our program meets with your approval.

Very truly yours,

DeWayne Starnes P.E.  
Deputy Director, Chief Building Official  
Sonoma County Permit & Resource Management Department  
707-565-1146